GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:460
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
AIDS POLICY
Harsha Kumar Shri G.V.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working on the National AIDS Control Policy in order to achieve zero infection rate by the year 2007;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/to be taken by the Government to achieve the target?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 460 FOR 27TH APRIL, 2005

Yes, Sir. The National AIDS Prevention and Control Policy envisages effective containment of the infection levels of HIV/AIDS in the general population in order to achieve zero level of new infections by 2007 which is interpreted as zero rate of growth of estimated HIV infection in the country. The National AIDS Control Organization, Ministry of Health & FW, Government of India is working on achieving this goal through focus on thrust areas taken/to be taken as follows:

- The Programme is being re-cast from a largely health sector, single disease programme to a truly multi-sectoral programme. Mainstreaming with other Ministry programmes to integrate HIV/AIDS prevention activities in the ongoing effort. National Council on AIDS is being formed under the Chairmanship of Hon`ble Prime Minister.

- In addition to high prevalence States, high priority is also being given to more populous states, now re-classified as highly vulnerable states instead of low prevalence states.

- Re-constitution of various bodies in the Government to provide effective leadership and guidance to the National AIDS Control Programme.

- Facilities for treatment of opportunistic infections provided in each medical college and district hospital.

- Prevention interventions to cover all the high-risk groups adopting multi-pronged strategy, being taken up.

- Extensive public awareness has been started so that within next six months whole country know about HIV / AIDS.

- Synergy with reproductive and child health care and TB control programme has been developed.

- Scaling up of the programme activities being done to provide atleast one Voluntary counseling and testing facility, Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission facility, Sexually Transmitted Disease clinic and Blood bank in each district of the country.

- Aggressive programming to promote condom use being adopted

- Facilities for free ART services has been provided in 25 centres and additional 11 centres have been sanctioned to provide free ART services. Six Community Care Centres have been sanctioned.

- Stronger monitoring and evaluation system to track implementation of various activities under the programme being taken up.